May, 1954

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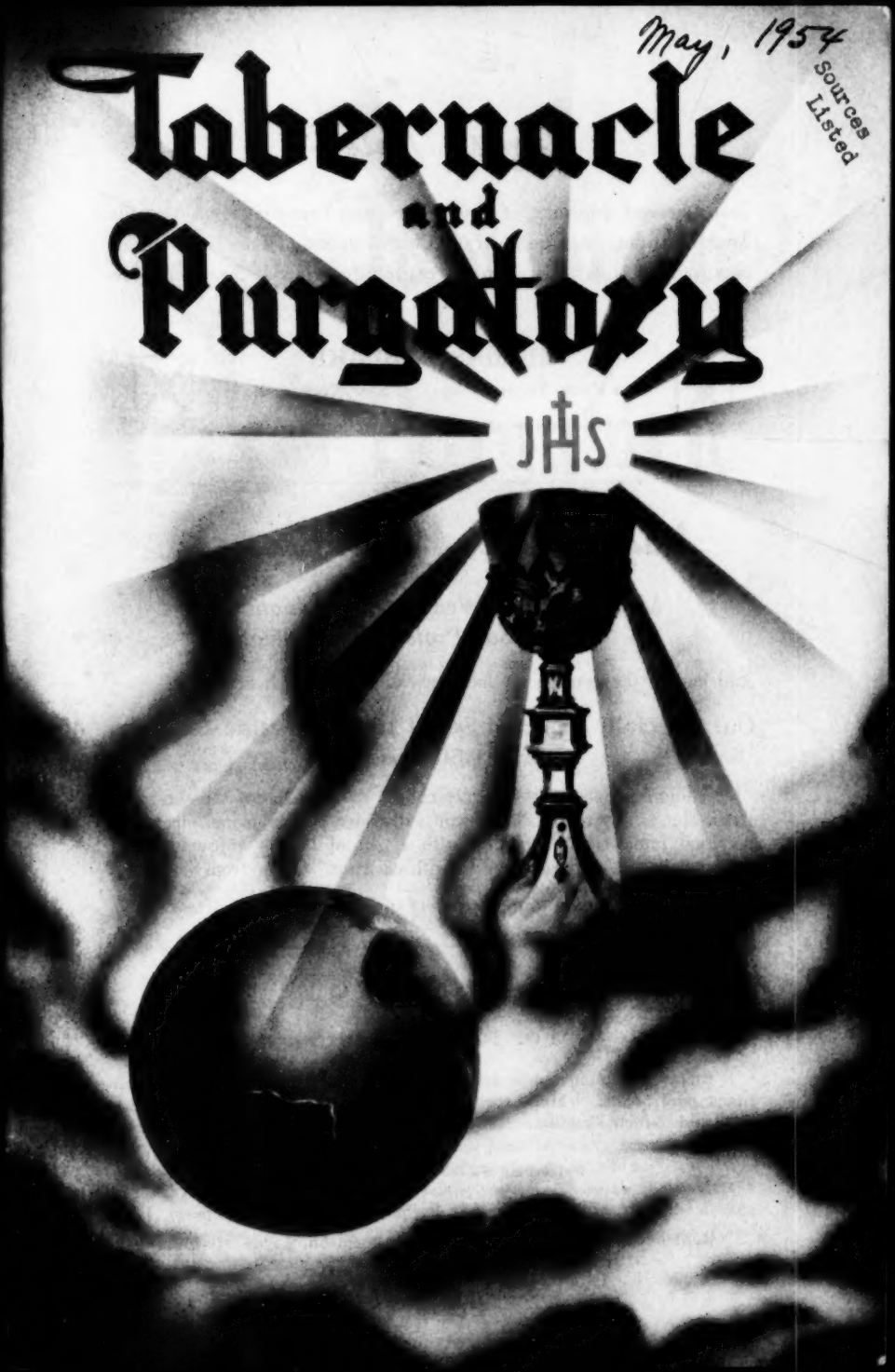

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Benedictine Convent of Perpetual Adoration, Clyde Missouri

Tabernacle and Purgatory

Vol. 50 MAY, 1954 No. 1

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TABERNACLE AND PURGATORY is published monthly, with ecclesiastical approbation, by the Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, Clyde, Missouri. Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office of Clyde, Mo., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 17, 1918. Member of Catholic Press Association. Subscription rates, U. S., $2.00 a year; 2 years, $3.00. Canada and foreign countries, $2.25 a year; 2 years, $3.50.

To the Convent of the
Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration
Clyde, Missouri

The Holy Father, on the occasion of the

GOLDEN JUBILEE of

TABERNACLE and PURGATORY,

monthly magazine published by the Benedictine Sisters of Clyde, Missouri, cordially imparts to the devoted Editorial Staff and to the Readers, his Paternal Apostolic Blessing.

From the Vatican, March 20, 1954

J. B. Montini,
Pro- Secretary

Golden Sheaves

WITH this May issue, "Tabernacle and Purgatory" embarks upon its Golden Jubilee year of publication. That is why it has donned festive attire, for surely such an important occasion merits some outward expression of jubilation. We are confident that this joy will be shared by our many readers, old and new, but especially by those who have been our faithful subscribers almost from the beginning. To all we offer sincere thanks for the loyal and generous support which has enabled us to continue the publication of the magazine through all these years, and to make of it an instrument for the accomplishment of a varied apostolate, for God's glory and the good of souls. In succeeding issues we shall give a fuller presentation of the magazine's mission, to show what it has done in the past and what it still aims to do in the furtherance of God's work.

A Tribute of Gratitude

Our first tribute of gratitude, however, we feel should be offered to the founder of our magazine and printing press — Father Lukas Etlin, O.S.B., of revered memory, and to our own valiant pioneer Sisters whose self-sacrificing labors launched it on its career. Father Lukas, who was chaplain of our convent here at Clyde for many years in its pioneer days, aided the struggling community in various ways to become self-supporting. In his prudent foresight he conceived the idea of setting up a printing press, for the purpose of publishing a Eucharistic magazine and a selection of booklets, prayer-leaflets, etc. This would provide the Sisters with an effective means of gaining a livelihood, while enabling them at the same time to carry on a far-reaching and influential spiritual apostolate without leaving the seclusion of their convent.

The Seed Is Planted

Accordingly, in 1903, a small quantity of hand type was purchased and a tiny hand-operated press installed in a small frame building on the convent grounds. A Benedictine Father from Conception Abbey taught some of the Sisters how to set type and to operate the machine. On this tiny press were printed two or three issues of a small pamphlet which was the forerunner of "Tabernacle and Purgatory."

Thus in 1904 our Eucharistic magazine made its first modest bow as a member of the great family of the Catholic Press. It was truly a "little one" — so little that it had as yet no name. But within its six-

teen pages it bore the first message from our Emmanuel — God dwelling with us in the unfathomable Mystery of the Blessed Sacrament, and its first appeal in behalf of the holy Souls in Purgatory. Yet, small though it was, there was much hard labor involved in its preparation, for the printing equipment was meagre and primitive, and the press, lacking a motor, had to be propelled by a treadle.

Later in the same year (1904) a large Miehle hand-fed press (operated by gasoline engine until October 1918, when electric motors were installed), and a second-hand folder were purchased. After a few lessons from experienced printers, the Sisters learned to operate the machines, and they and their successors in the work have done so ever since.

From this Miehle press issued the first edition of "Tabernacle and Purgatory" in May, 1905, in the 32-page format which it has retained up to the present time. This same press, together with another of similar make but a little larger, purchased in 1907, is still in operation. Other presses have been installed in the course of the years, but these two pioneer presses are still used in the printing of "Tabernacle and Purgatory" each month. In spite of their advanced age, they are still doing good work and give promise of many more years of service. The secret of their longevity is the good care they have received — for in a convent, the adage "Cleanliness is next to godliness" holds good even in the printery.

Significance of the Name

The name of the magazine was derived naturally from the two special missions it was to serve, and was thus defined by the zealous founder in the first issue:

"TABERNACLE is the first title, because this publication is to serve the most lovable and highest Good, the greatest treasure on earth, the essence of all power, beauty and lovableness, the sun of all creation, the center of true happiness for time and eternity. Whether the Holy Eucharist be considered in Its continual abiding upon our altars, or as a Sacrifice, or as the Food of our souls, there are always revealed to us great and unfathomable mysteries of Divine love. These pages should therefore increase the esteem for Holy Mass, encourage a frequent and worthy reception of Holy Communion, and awaken and strengthen a lively faith in the Real Presence of Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist.

"PURGATORY is the second title of this periodical. The Holy Eucharist is the greatest consolation for the poor souls and is a most powerful means for obtaining them relief and deliverance. Our readers shall often be reminded of the greatness and severity of the sufferings

of the holy souls, and how they may be relieved by prayer, alms, Holy Communion, and the holy Sacrifice of the Mass."

We might add by way of explanation that in virtue of the Association of Perpetual Adoration established at the convent, the Sisters are obligated to pray in a special way for the holy souls in purgatory, particularly those recommended to their prayers. This devotion was also dear to the heart of Father Lukas, and both he and the Sisters welcomed the opportunity of furthering the cause of the poor souls by making it a secondary mission of the magazine.

The Seedling Grows

In 1907, the printery was moved to the present two-story building erected for that purpose. The printery itself occupies the entire first floor. The second floor provides space for the editorial, subscription and correspondence departments, the booklet order department and packing room, and also the addressograph.

In the beginning the magazine was published quarterly; then six times a year, then eight, and finally, in May, 1920, it attained the status of a monthly magazine. From the start, both an English and a German edition were published, but the latter ("Tabernakel und Fegfeuer") had to be discontinued in December, 1947, much to our own regret and that of our few-remaining German subscribers.

Father Lukas himself edited the magazine through the first difficult years, and up until the time of his lamented death in December, 1927. At that time the Sisters trained by him assumed the responsibility, and their successors continue to do so, under proper supervision.

All of the type was set by hand until 1926, when an Intertype machine was installed. Each machine in the printery, from the largest to the smallest, is blessed upon its installation and dedicated to a special patron, who is responsible for its smooth and efficient operation. These patrons include the Infant Jesus of Prague (the "Chief Superintendent" of the printery), the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph, the Nine Choirs of Angels, Sts. Peter and Paul, St. Benedict and St. Scholastica, St. Agatha, St. Christopher, St. Bernard, St. Patrick, St. Francis de Sales, St. Ann and the Little Flower. The entire printery is under the patronage of St. Benedict and of St. Francis de Sales, the Patron of the Catholic Press.

It is interesting to note that the Sister who did the first typesetting and had charge of the printery at its inception is now a Diamond Jubilarian, spending her days in prayer and suffering as an invalid in the infirmary. She laments her forced "inactivity," but we maintain that she is still making a most valuable contribution toward the success of

the magazine. The Sister who wrapped and addressed the first copy — a Golden Jubilarian — is still quite agile and active, and is now one of the pioneers at the newly-established Sanctuary in San Diego, California, where she surprises everyone by the amount of work she can still accomplish. In her characteristic spirit of gaiety, she refuses to grow *old*, though it is hard for her to understand why her hands and feet are not as nimble as they used to be!

Sisters in the Role of Printers

It may be surprising to many of our readers to learn that all the work in our printery, from the setting of the type to the finished product, is done exclusively by the Sisters, with no outside help. Even minor repairs are taken care of by those in charge. Now and then the services of a professional mechanic are required, and from time to time the machines are given a general overhauling, to keep them in good condition.

In operating a printery, we are carrying out a venerable tradition of the Benedictine Order. The Benedictine monks and nuns were among the foremost promoters of the art of printing from its beginning. Even before the days of the printing press, they rendered invaluable services to the Church and to society by copying and illuminating the Scriptures, the writings of the Fathers, and other sacred and classic writings, and thus preserved to posterity many precious works which would otherwise have beeen lost.

In our country, practically every one of the larger Benedictine Abbeys has a printing press, and publishes one or more magazines or papers and a variety of booklets, pamphlets, and even books. However, so far as we know, ours is the only Benedictine *convent* which operates a printery. The Benedictine Sisters at Atchison, Kansas, publish a semi-annual Benedictine Review but do not print it themselves.

Prayer Given Precedence

Prayer being the primary end of our Congregation of Perpetual Adoration, it follows that every other occupation is secondary to it. The printery is in operation only between the hours of the Divine Office, as all the Sisters take part in this official "Work of God," — the name given it by St. Benedict. The Sisters employed in the printery also take their turns at official Adoration and other community exercises and employments, so that their working day in the printery is divided into several periods, interspersed with periods of prayer.

At every hour of the day, when the Adoration bell is rung, the machines are stopped and the Sisters kneel for a short spiritual communion

(as do the Sisters in all the departments of the convent). Before beginning each issue, the editors offer prayers for light and guidance in the selection and preparation of the contents. Moreover, as the Sisters observe monastic silence, except for a period of recreation at noon, speaking only what is necessary for the proper conduct of their work, they whisper many a silent prayer and aspiration as they go about their duties. And lastly, each issue of "Tabernacle and Purgatory" is blessed by our Chaplain before it is sent out. So we feel it cannot but carry a special blessing to our readers.

Spirit and Scope of "Tabernacle and Purgatory"

Naturally, the name "Tabernacle and Purgatory" by no means covers the entire scope of the magazine. Rather, it embraces the entire field of Catholic doctrine and devotion, with special emphasis on devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Devotion to the angels and saints is likewise encouraged. Characteristic of the magazine also is its liturgical spirit, in that it presents instructive and devotional articles on the feasts and seasons of the ecclesiastical year as they occur, encouraging its readers to a life of union with the Church. In May, 1933, a department for children was added, under the title of "Little Lovers' League," its purpose being to foster a love for the Blessed Sacrament in children from their earliest years, and to make the practice of virtue attractive and appealing to them by stories and examples from the life of Our Lord, the lives of the saints and of saintly children.

True to the ideal of its founder and of our religious Superiors, as well as to the wishes of the great body of its subscribers, "Tabernacle and Purgatory" has been kept on a purely religious and devotional plane. Now and then some well-meaning person suggests that the magazine would, if written in a more popular and lighter style, attract many more subscribers and thus add to our material gain. However, we are convinced that a devotional magazine serves a definite need among Catholics who are trying to live a life of greater perfection and closer union with God. This conviction is strengthened by the many assurances we have received from pastors and spiritual directors and especially from the readers themselves. Although a substantial increase of subscribers would indeed be much to our liking, we trust that this can be realized without sacrificing our ideal. For truly, as we look back over the years, nothing gives us greater consolation than the testimonies of our readers that "Tabernacle and Purgatory" is fulfilling its mission of drawing souls closer to God and to the Blessed Sacrament, enlightening them in the teachings of our holy Faith and making them more fervent and faithful in its practice,

and bringing back lapsed Catholics as well as drawing non-Catholics into the fold of Christ.

Encouraging Signs for the Future

Our present times have been fittingly called "The Age of the Eucharist." This month the Catholic world exults over the canonization of the great and beloved Pope of the Eucharist, Pius X. In this Marian Year, the number of daily Communions is increasing remarkably. The evening Masses are drawing many worshipers who could not assist at the Holy Sacrifice otherwise. Everywhere, Adoration societies and associations are flourishing, and the practice of Perpetual Adoration in parishes is rapidly spreading in our country. Our own Eucharistic Sanctuaries in five dioceses have become flourishing centers of Eucharistic devotion. These are all encouraging signs of an intensified Eucharistic life and a growing awareness of the need for Jesus, the Bread of the Strong, the Helper in every necessity.

For us, they are also encouraging signs that with a deepening love and appreciation of the Blessed Sacrament there will be a growing demand for our Eucharistic magazine to stimulate and intensify this devotion. As we dedicate this Golden Jubilee year of 1954 to the memory of the glorious past, we look forward, then, with great confidence to the future. We invite all our readers to join with us in fervent prayers of thanksgiving to God for His blessing, which has rested so visibly on the work, and in a prayer of petition that He will continue to use "Tabernacle and Purgatory" as an humble instrument of His mercy to ignite the fire of Eucharistic love in many hearts.

An Appreciated Letter of Congratulation

March 27th, 1954

Venerable and dear Sisters,

Since, with the next issue of Tabernacle and Purgatory you enter the Golden Jubilee year, I hasten to be one of the first to offer my sincerest felicitations.

Fifty years ago I obtained for you the approbation of Bishop Burke, of blessed memory, and a few first subscribers. During all these years I have followed the progress of this beautiful magazine with admiration, pleasure and not a little benefit to myself.

God's blessing was evidently with you. It seems to me as if Father Lukas were still working in the interest of this child of his, the Tabernacle and Purgatory.

Most sincerely yours in Jesus and Mary,

✠ *Philip O. S. B., Abbot*

(Retired Abbot of Conception Abbey.)

Mary Immaculate, the Hope of Our Times

AS we welcome Mary's beautiful month of May, so doubly significant in this Marian Year, we would wish for the golden eloquence of a St. John Chrysostom or a St. Bernard in order to sing her praises worthily and to foster in souls an ever greater love for our Immaculate Queen, whose glories we are celebrating during this Marian Year. May, in all its verdant springtime beauty, lends itself so well to the contemplation of her virtues, for she is the "Garden enclosed," in which the flowers of virtue bloom in richest profusion. The lily in its dazzling whiteness, the crimson rose of charity and the blue violet of humility attract us by their beauty and their delicate perfume, and urge us to cultivate these flowers also in the garden of our own heart. May this month of May, then, find us all offering the fairest blossoms of our love and devotion to her to whom it is dedicated, and making earnest efforts to imitate her in her virtues and holiness of life.

Because the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception gives us, in a certain measure, an epitome of the entire Christian Revelation, since by the revelation of this truth, the other truths are also made known, a great blessing has accrued to the Church and her children through the proclamation of this dogma and the consequent increase of veneration of the Immaculate Virgin. A consideration of this sublime prerogative of Mary ought, then, to strengthen and increase our faith in God's revelations, as taught by the Church, and our trust in Mary's powerful intercession and protection.

In his brief to the Cardinals, urging them to take measures for the triumphal celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Dogma in 1904, Pope Leo XIII wrote: "In all the centuries, and in all her struggles and persecutions, the Church has taken refuge to Mary, and with her she has ever found strength and protection. And since our present times are so stormy and so menacing for the Church herself, our heart rejoices and is filled with hope when we see how eager the faithful are to use this favorable opportunity to turn to Mary with unanimous devotedness and with full confidence and love, as the Help of Christians, through the celebration of this Golden Jubilee."

As Leo XIII died in 1903, it was left to Pope Pius X, his successor, to continue the work he had begun. Confirming the commission

of his predecessor by a brief dated September 8, 1903, Pius X declared that in these times of strife, the help of the Virgin-Mother of God, destined by the Triune God to be the dispenser of all graces, was particularly necessary and efficacious. In another brief he expressed the hope that this memorial celebration of the Immaculate Conception would renew the glorious spectacle of faith and love for the Mother of God which for the first five centuries had astounded the world. This hope, he said, was justified by the love of all true Catholics, who never tire and are always ready to offer new proofs of love and veneration to the exalted Mother of God.

"When our predecessor, Pius IX, proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception," wrote Pius X, "extraordinary blessings flowed upon the world, and with the growth of hope and confidence in the Virgin-Mother of God, the piety of the people increased everywhere, to our great joy. Why, then, should we not hope for similar and even greater things for the future? Certainly the times in which we live are grave, and we, too, can say with the prophet: 'There is no truth, no mercy, and no knowledge of God in the land. Cursing, and lying, and killing, and theft, and adultery have overflowed' (Osee 4:1, 2).

"But see, above this deluge of evil shines the rainbow — the tender-hearted Virgin, who stands before us as the peacemaker between God and men. 'I will set My bow in the clouds, and it shall be the sign of a covenant between Me, and between the earth' (Gen. 9:13).

"Let the storm rage and the heavens be veiled in blackest night; we shall never give up hope. The sight of Mary appeases God, and He will be merciful to us for her sake. 'The bow shall be in the clouds, and I shall see it and shall remember the everlasting covenant... And there shall be no more waters of a flood to destroy all flesh' (Gen. 9:16, 15).

"If we trust in Mary as we should, especially now when we are honoring her Immaculate Conception with greater fervor, we too shall find how super-powerful Mary is, who has crushed the head of the serpent."

How well the words of Pope Pius X apply to our own times and to our present celebration of the Centenary of the proclamation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception! Let us then avail ourselves of the golden opportunity to offer special veneration to Mary Immaculate, so that we too may increase in true devotion to her, may become more zealous in her service, firmer in confidence and truer in love for her, and may, through her intercession, obtain the long-desired peace among the nations of the world. As Cardinal Fisher wrote on December 8, 1908: "May the knowledge of the privileges of our heavenly

© Camera Clix By Carlo Maratti

The Virgin-Mother of Jesus

Him who gave us such a Mother,
Let our grateful songs proclaim;
Loving hearts and joyful voices,
Praise her great Creator's name.

Glory to the Name of Mary!
Raise your voices — louder raise!
And of Jesus, Son of Mary,
Every creature chant the praise!

Mother increase, and with knowledge, love for her; and with love, confidence in her mighty intercession."

Our present Holy Father, Pope Pius XII, has likewise expressed great hope and confidence that the celebration of the centenary of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception this year will bring about her special help in our critical times. In his directives for the celebration of this Marian Year, he encourages especially visits and pilgrimages to shrines and sanctuaries dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. He wishes that all the Saturdays of the year, as well as the 8th day of each month, be marked with special devotions to Mary, and has granted many indulgences to be gained by special prayers and devotions. Among the latter, surely the Rosary should hold an honored place, and particularly the Family Rosary; for prayer said by a number of persons together has special efficacy in the sight of God. Many people have the praiseworthy custom of receiving Holy Communion on the greater feasts of the Blessed Virgin. But a true lover of Mary will not be content with receiving only on her feasts. There is one day of every week — SATURDAY — dedicated to the Blessed Mother; we might almost call it a "minor feast" of Mary. Our Lady herself, in her apparitions at Fatima, encouraged the practice of receiving Holy Communion and offering special veneration to her on Saturday.

Our Holy Father has also recommended special intentions for which we are to pray during this year, particularly for those suffering persecution and for the persecutors themselves, that they may be converted; for the afflicted and oppressed, the poor and lowly; for the preservation of purity in youth, and for the great and universal interests of the Church, for her protection, her propagation, and her interior fortification. And let us not forget to pray also for our Holy Father himself, that God may restore him to health and may bless and protect him, assist him in his arduous tasks, and preserve him to us for many more years if such be His holy will.

The age in which we live is cold in faith. In the midst of Christendom there is a steady increase of apostasy from Christ, our Lord: a frightening fact for every faithful Christian. The Incarnation of the Son of God is denied, the Divinity of Christ is rejected, and the right of the God-man to exercise an influence upon the life of individuals as well as upon society in general is contested and abolished. Human society is in grave danger of becoming de-Christianized. The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception is a loud protest against such anti-Christian strivings, for the privilege of the Mother is based solely and exclusively upon the dignity of her Son. It is only because He is infinitely high and glorious, the eternal and only-begotten Son of God

in human nature, that she by whom He was to assume human nature — His Mother — was of necessity preserved from every stain of sin and adorned with every possible gift of grace. The honor we pay to Mary necessarily embodies the honor which we pay to our Lord and Savior, whom we adore as the Son of God made man for us, and whom for this reason we also joyfully recognize as the born King of mankind, the King of each individual and the King of nations. This is the most profound reason for our veneration of Mary. For this reason, too, the veneration we pay to the Mother of God, conceived without sin, will culminate in a renewed, increased and deepened love for Our Lord.

If others deny His Divinity (it grieves our inmost heart and we pray for the erring ones), we — honoring His holy Mother, will repeat the more loudly and fervently the words of the Holy Gospel: "Blessed is the womb that bore Thee" (Luke 11:27), "for we have come to believe and to know that Thou art the Christ, the Son of God!" (John 6:70.)

Many and great proofs of benevolence have been bestowed by God upon the world and upon the Church during the past century, doubtless to be attributed in large measure to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. Shall we not hope then that we too will be favored with Divine blessings as we pay special honor to the high dignity of the Blessed Virgin Mary? May we not believe, in the words of St. Paul, that "Now our salvation is nearer than when we came to believe"? (Rom. 13:11.) And this all the more, since experience shows that in the designs of Divine Providence, God is nearest where the danger is greatest. May we not hope, too, that the peace so ardently longed for and which Mary promised at Fatima (contingent upon certain conditions imposed by her), is nearer now than we dare to believe? Yes, may we not hope soon to be able to raise the cry uttered by the Prophet Isaias when he prophesied concerning the coming of Christ: "The Lord has broken the staff of the wicked, the rod of the rulers that struck the people in wrath with an incurable wound, that brought nations under in fury, that persecuted in a cruel manner. The whole earth is quiet and still, it is glad and has rejoiced" (Isaias 14:5-7).

Fourth Star in Mary's Crown

Imitation of *Mary's zeal for the salvation of souls.* As we think of how much she did and suffered for the world's redemption, in union with her Divine Son, let us offer our little daily crosses and sufferings to her for the salvation of souls, repeating often the ejaculation: *Mary, Help of Christians, pray for us!*

Thoughts on the Ascension

The feast which stands out pre-eminently in this month's calendar is the Ascension of Christ, celebrated on the 27th.

IN the days that intervened between Our Lord's Resurrection and His Ascension, He appeared many times to His Apostles and disciples and instructed them more fully regarding the mission they were to fulfil. When the Apostles had really grasped the truth of the Resurrection after the first moments of doubt and wonder, they were in a state of exaltation. The fear of the Jews that had made them tremble and hide themselves after the tragedy of Calvary, was gone forever. The forty days in which they were privileged to associate with Jesus after His Resurrection were golden days of closest intimacy and rehabilitation, which gave them a new spirit and made them new men. They had Our Lord, as it were, entirely to themselves. He clarified, in many ways, the instructions that they had not previously understood, and strengthened them in the vocation to which He had called them. During the previous three years of association with Jesus, the Apostles had not fully grasped their position, nor realized what it meant to be an "Apostle"; but now at length they clearly understood the task that lay ahead of them.

But Jesus could not remain indefinitely upon earth. When His Apostles and disciples had been fully trained for the work they were to do, it was but fitting that He return to His Father. Hence, on an appointed day the Apostles and disciples assembled in the Cenacle, with the Mother of Christ and other holy women, to await the hour when their Divine Master would appear to them for the last time. Praying and silent, they recalled all the kindnesses, the blessings, and the instructions which the Risen Savior had lavished on them during the past forty days. Their thoughts and hearts followed Jesus from His first appearance in His public life to the present moment. They had celebrated, as we have in the holy Liturgy, all the events of His life, and now the Divine series of the mysteries of the Man-God was about to close. Heaven was to catch up the joy of earth.

Suddenly Jesus appeared in their midst. He sat down and ate with them, as a mark of familiarity. The joy of Mary's heart must have overflowed as she looked lovingly and adoringly at her Son, who was soon to mount His throne at the right hand of God. When the meal was finished, Jesus led the way to a mountain outside of Jerusalem, usually held to be the Mount of Olives, where He spoke to them

for the last time on earth, giving to His Apostles the command which has been the battle cry of the Church ever since: "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world" (Matt. 28:18-20).

Then He raised His hand over their heads and blessed them. Even as He did so, He began to ascend toward heaven, and the disciples looked longingly after Him, till the clouds hid Him from their sight. We can only faintly imagine the jubilation of the angel choirs who were awaiting Him, and who threw open the gates of heaven to welcome the One "Mighty in battle," the Conqueror of Satan and hell.

But Jesus was not alone when He made His triumphal entry through the thronging choirs of angels to His throne on high. When He had vanished from the sight of His friends on earth, Limbo gave up the souls it had held for thousands of years, and together with Christ, they entered the Holy of Holies, where He took possession of His royal throne and of His Kingdom of which there shall be no end. What a glorious scene of light and splendor! What canticles of praise and joy echoed through the heavens as the choirs of angels paid homage to their King and welcomed their new brethren, the first human souls, to be their companions forever!

Our Goal Too

Heaven is our goal, too, and the prayer that Holy Church places on our lips on the feast of the Ascension is indeed timely and practical. "That with our minds we may always dwell in heaven." Consideration of the rewards of heaven gives us a correct perspective of the value of the things of earth. Viewed in this light, how small and insignificant are the daily circumstances of life — and yet, how great and precious, since by them we merit the everlasting, all-exceeding glory of heaven! The thought of heaven makes us fervent, zealous, patient, generous. It detaches us from what may be as dear to us as life itself.

Heaven is worthy of every sacrifice, and therefore Our Lord exhorts us to lay up for ourselves treasures there, where the moth and the rust do not consume, and where thieves cannot break in and steal. To lose heaven is unutterable woe. It is the greatest possible loss, for it is the loss of our soul, the loss of God Himself — forever! No earthly possession or pleasure can make up for this loss. "What doth it profit a man to gain the whole world and suffer the loss of his own soul?"

The thought of heaven instils a strong and fervent love of the Cross. "For our present light affliction, which is for the moment, prepares for us an eternal weight of glory that is beyond all measure" (2 Cor. 4:17). The thought of heaven is a harbinger of joy and an incentive to a fervent Christian life. It is a strong bulwark against the spirit of materialism. It leads the soul to the altar, to the Eucharistic Sacrifice and Banquet, and to the perpetual Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, where we find heaven on earth, for heaven is where God is. Thus the Mystery of the Ascension teaches us to "love the beauty of God's House and the place where His glory dwelleth," and to strive so to live that we may merit the place that Jesus has gone to prepare for us.

Novena to the Holy Spirit

(May 27 to June 6)

AFTER Our Lord's Ascension, the disciples returned to the Cenacle to begin what proved to be the first Novena, in preparation for the coming of the Holy Spirit, when they would be "clothed with power from on high," as Jesus had promised. Day after day they waited, supplicating this heavenly grace. On the morning of the tenth day, as they were praying at the third hour (about nine o'clock), the Holy Spirit came down upon them in the form of fiery tongues.

This year the feast of the Ascension falls on May 27. In commemoration of this first Novena in the Church, and in obedience to the decrees of His Holiness, Pope Leo XIII, we will conduct a Solemn Novena of prayers in honor of the Holy Spirit in each of our Sanctuaries of Perpetual Adoration,* from May 27 to June 6, the feast of Pentecost. Our special intentions will be to obtain an outpouring of grace upon the Church and upon souls, to help them fight the battles of life with courage and to carry the torch of faith and Christian love to unbelievers, even as the Apostles began to make Christ known and preached His Gospel everywhere. The intentions of our dear readers and kind benefactors will also be included. All are invited to join in this Novena by daily reciting the hymn, "Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest," and the "Glory be to the Father" seven times. Reception of the sacraments, and daily attendance at Holy Mass is recommended.

Petitions sent to the Motherhouse, at Clyde, Missouri, will be placed upon the altar near the Exposition Throne during the Novena.

To add to the efficacy of our prayers, we will offer them through Mary, the Immaculate Spouse of the Holy Spirit and the Mediatrix of All Graces, praying her to obtain for us the favors we ask if they be for the glory of God and our own good.

*Located at:

Clyde, Missouri	Mundelein, Illinois	Tucson, Arizona	Kansas City, Missouri	San Diego, California

Our Mighty Intercessor

LOVERS of St. Joseph throughout the length and breadth of the Catholic world rejoice in the feast of the Solemnity of St. Joseph (May 5th this year), when we honor this great and noble saint under the title of Patron of the Universal Church. In the Egyptian Joseph of the Old Testament, we are taught to see a type of this still greater Saint and Patriarch who was placed by God over the Virgin Mother and her Child, who was appointed to provide for them in their exile in distant Egypt, who was the head of the house in that model home of Nazareth, and who, finally, by a Divine consistency, was set over that larger household of God, the Catholic Church.

Through Joseph of Egypt an abundance of temporal blessings descended upon the house of his master, and later upon the entire kingdom, over which he was given the highest power under Pharaoh. With such wisdom and prudence did he make provision that not only was the realm saved from famine and desolation, but even neighboring tribes found in him help and relief in the hour of distress and universal want. For this reason he was given the great name of "Savior of the world."

So, too, in our day, the House of the Lord, the Kingdom of God upon earth, His holy Church, is placed under the protection of the just and humble Joseph, the virginal father of the Savior of mankind. Great as that Church is, so great is the family of St. Joseph.

To St. Joseph's care the Child Jesus was entrusted, to be nurtured, guarded and protected. How fitting, then, that to him should be en-

trusted likewise that Mystical Body of Christ, whose members are all the faithful! With what love and confidence as his children should we therefore look up to him, certain of his fatherly solicitude and affection for the least as well as for the greatest.

Corresponding to that sublime office committed to him as Protector of the Universal Church, there was given to St. Joseph a father's heart, ample in its love to embrace the entire Church, and to extend its tenderness to each of his many children. "Go to Joseph" is the admonition the Church gives us today, as it was given of old in reference to that earlier Joseph. And as the granaries of Egypt were thrown open at the latter's command, so by the intercession of our Heavenly Patron the treasures of grace are now unlocked to souls, nor will temporal blessings conducive to our salvation be denied us through this mighty intercessor with God. Not only should we pray to him for our own selves, however. Our hands should often be lifted to him for the Universal Church, that his pleadings may obtain the sanctification of her children and the conversion of those outside the fold, and that through him she may be most mightily protected against all her enemies. Today the Church is being persecuted in many lands. Let us pray fervently to St. Joseph to strengthen the faith of those who are suffering and to grant peace to the whole Christian world.

"And do all that he shall say to you." This admonition, given with regard to the Egyptian Joseph, is important also for us and we must not forget it. While St. Joseph's assistance will not be wanting in answer to our petitions, we must do our part to correspond with the graces we ask him to obtain for us through the Heart of Mary from the Heart of Christ. Thus with his aid and strength we shall be enabled joyously to run in the way of God's commandments.

The more fully we enter into the spirit of the liturgy of this feast, the more shall we be imbued with sentiments of joy and praise as we contemplate St. Joseph's exalted greatness. The fervor of our devotion will be re-enkindled and inflamed, our confidence excited and placed on the firmest foundation as we consider the innumerable reasons we have for boundless trust in the protection of so glorious a patron, who is all-powerful over the Heart of Jesus and always disposed to succor us. And not less will a lively gratitude well up in our hearts at the thought of the blessings for which we are indebted to him personally, as well as for those which the Church owes him as a whole.

O great St. Joseph! protect the Church; confound her enemies; help her children; watch over the Pope, the bishops, and priests. St. Joseph! in every conflict give victory to the Church of Jesus!

Another Triumph for Jesus Eucharistic

THE reign of our Eucharistic King on our fifth Throne of Perpetual Adoration in San Diego, California, has become a reality, and the hearts of all His Benedictine Perpetual Adorers overflow with joy and gratitude to Him for His loving condescension in coming to dwell with us on still another Throne. Our one united prayer is that the reign of Jesus in all our Sanctuaries may be a reign of merciful love, and that our service of Him may be one of loving adoration, sacrificial atonement, generous immolation, and a total gift of self. We know, from the many letters received, that our joy is shared by our dear friends and benefactors, far and near, so many of whom have assisted us by prayer and gift-offerings to bring another of our sanctuaries to a reality.

The greatest joy, naturally, was that of the little community of our Sisters at San Diego who were commissioned to "prepare the way of the Lord and make straight His paths," and who were privileged to participate in the solemn ceremonies inaugurating the Perpetual Adoration in the Sanctuary of Pius X, on March 25th. A few extracts from their letter written the day following the ceremonies will best reveal this joy, and will also supply some interesting details. They wrote: —

" 'Sweet hymns of gratitude rise from my heart, joyous thanksgivings resound in my soul, when the Delight of Angels becomes my Guest!' These words from our Adoration book, in one of the first official Hours kept before the Fifth Monstrance Throne on the Pacific shores, best express the feelings that surged through our souls on the memorable Annunciation Feast of 1954. We have been privileged to see our Eucharistic Spouse take up His abode in this humble Throne-room, prepared by loving hands, and as we witnessed the splendor of yesterday's services (Pontifical High Mass celebrated by the Most Reverend Bishop Buddy), we could not but think, if this is so beautiful, what must it be like in heaven, when the splendor of the Divine Sun is unveiled and unclouded! Each one of you was in our hearts and our grateful prayers, and we felt united in that bond of love which is so aptly expressed in the inscription in our Holy Spirit Sanctuary (in Kansas City): 'Though many, we are ONE IN HIM.' How truly did we feel this yesterday, for our hearts' joy reached out to embrace each one of you, that you might participate in the blessings, since this new Adoration Sanctuary is the fruit of all your prayers and sacrifices.

"The Bishop's throne was draped in white satin, with a gold silk

lining and the Bishop's coat-of-arms... Our dossals are of gold background, and the antependium is of gold-colored satin. With the white panels on the dossals, tabernacle veil and antependium, and the gold and white throne, it looked indeed like another Holy Thursday Repository. Two large palms were placed in the rear of the sanctuary, and eight others on the three risers leading to the sanctuary; there were also many beautiful flowers sent by kind friends. The lovely life-sized Angels painted by our dear artist-Sisters at home, to be placed on the archway leading to the sanctuary proper, guard, with their swinging censers, the 'Holy of holies'... The inscription, 'Come, let us adore,' is in a prominent place, inviting hearts and souls to kneel before the Sacrament of Divine Love, and we know it will serve as a message to many who come to the chapel...

"After the blessing of the chapel, which took but a short time, His Excellency went to the throne to vest for Holy Mass, during which the choir sang the '*Ecce Sacerdos Magnus.*' Upon its completion, the celebrant was ready to begin the Mass. The sanctuary looked like a little corner of heaven come to earth; the pure white candles and dossals, the golden candelabra, the white and gold throne, and all the splendor of the Pontifical Mass, seemed indeed a fitting setting for the coming of our God of Love to claim His Throne, so long awaited by our beloved Bishop and Shepherd, whose face bore an expression of intense joy and gratitude...

"The chapel was filled to capacity, and the extra folding chairs we had provided were also taken, despite the fact that it was a workday and a schoolday. There were about ten Monsignori present, each attended by two priests; many priests from local parishes and even from Los Angeles, about eighteen Sisters, and many of the laity.

"The awed hush at the Consecration of the Mass spoke more eloquently than words of the loving welcome our Divine Guest received, and when later His Excellency placed the Sacred Host in the Monstrance, we felt that it was our King's triumph and our Bishop's supreme moment of desire fulfilled. The Pontifical Mass was most beautiful and solemn; there was a noticeably deep and fervent reverence in all who participated. Rt. Rev. Monsignor Hurd gave a most inspiring sermon. After the Mass, His Excellency gave the Papal Blessing to all present, and also waived the fast and abstinence for the day, in gratitude for and in celebration of this glorious event in the history of the Diocese.

"After the Papal Blessing, he vested for Benediction. What followed then can better be imagined than described... It seems like a wonderful, beautiful dream, and yet it is no dream but the sweet

and tremendous reality that JESUS IS HERE with us; that He has gloriously claimed another Monstrance Throne from which to reign and dispense His graces. When the aspiration after Benediction was finished, we were all waiting for His Excellency to rise and leave, but he remained kneeling motionless, and seemed oblivious to all save our Eucharistic God, upon whom he was looking with adoring love. Then, in the silence that enveloped the whole chapel, he opened his heart in fervent outpourings to Him who now reigns in the Sanctuary, in brief aspirations of adoration and love, addressing his welcome to the King, asking Him to bless his people and thanking Him for the blessing of Perpetual Adoration. It was most touching.

"The services were scarcely over when a zealous layman came and asked if he might bring his group of adorers for an hour of nocturnal adoration that evening from 9 to 10... He came, with eleven others, all of whom have been faithful through fifteen years (at a local church), and it was most inspiring to hear them praying so fervently...

"Some of the women are asking about organized hours of adoration, and even though the beginning must be humble, it is most gratifying to see the zeal already manifested, so there must be fertile soil to till for the Divine Gardener."

An all-night vigil was kept by the Sisters (two at each hour) on the night of the opening day, and each was happy for an opportunity to pour out her sentiments of love and gratitude at the feet of Jesus Hostia. Although there will be unceasing adoration throughout the day, every day, it will not be possible as yet for the small community to maintain perpetual adoration every night, though it is our hope and desire that this may be possible before long.

As the Sisters commence their vigil of love in this new Sanctuary, they pray that the sacred flame of the sanctuary lamp, carried with so much love and care from the dear Motherhouse at Clyde, may ever burn brightly before Jesus' new Throne on the shores of the Pacific, as a beacon light to many souls, drawing them into the saving harbor of the Divine Heart in the Blessed Sacrament. They pray also for all our kind friends and benefactors, that a flood of graces may stream upon them from Jesus, the Divine Sun in the Holy Eucharist.

We know our dear friends and readers realize that the expense of establishing a new Sanctuary of Perpetual Adoration is very great. We confidently look to you for the continued help of your prayers and sacrifices, to pay off the debt still burdening our Kansas City sanctuary, and to help maintain the one just opened in San Diego. Jesus, who is never outdone in generosity, will repay you abundantly for all that you do to help extend His Eucharistic Reign. Any offering, large or small, will be most gratefully received by:

Benedictine Convent of Perpetual Adoration, Clyde, Missouri

The Poor Souls Await Our Charity

WE read in the Holy Gospel that one day a great crowd followed Our Lord into the desert, attracted by His preaching and miracles. Day was closing, and the disciples begged their Master to dismiss the people so they might go and buy something to eat, as they were tired and hungry. But Jesus, to try their faith, answered, "Many of them have come from a great distance, and if we send them away hungry, they may faint on the way. *Do you yourselves give them to eat.*"

We are in a similar position with regard to the souls in purgatory — that great multitude of souls waiting for admittance into heaven. They have no means of procuring for themselves merits that will cancel their debt of temporal punishment. Neither can they visit this earth to implore the aid of those who could assist them. So, our all-compassionate Lord counsels *us*, as He did His Apostles in the desert: "You yourselves provide them with help and refreshment so they may the sooner partake of the heavenly Banquet for which they languish."

The two great precepts of the Gospel, as we know, are love of God and love of our neighbor. Included therein is charity toward the souls in purgatory. We are certain that God desires the deliverance of the souls in purgatory. Animated, as they are, with Divine charity, they are objects of His special love. Therefore, it pains Him, so to say, to see them detained at a distance from Himself. He longs to see entirely accomplished in their regard the benefit of Redemption, but, all-powerful though He is, He cannot shorten the time of their punishment. With regard to them He is like a father who would give all he possessed to pay the debts of his son, and though he has the means to do so, he must see this son suffer imprisonment and shame for his wilful debts.

Our Divine Lord has given *all* for the souls who suffer in purgatory, all, even to His last breath, even to the last drop of His Precious Blood. Now, His Justice is obliged to detain them in purgatory until their debts are paid. Therefore, it is to us, who have been enriched by the infinite merits of His Sacred Passion, that He looks and implores help for the suffering souls. And He says to us, "Do you give to them what they need."

He asks this of us in virtue of the charity which we owe to our neighbor. Our Divine Lord never omitted an opportunity to urge His disciples to the love of neighbor, and told them that whatsoever they did to the least of their brethren, He counted as done to Himself. To

help the poor souls, then, is to visit Our Lord in prison, to ransom the captive, and to perform the greatest work of mercy.

Amongst those who followed Our Lord in the desert was a boy who had five barley loaves and two fishes. Our Lord took these provisions, blessed them, and commanded His disciples to distribute them to the multitude; and when all had eaten as much as they wanted, the Apostles gathered up the fragments which remained, and filled twelve baskets. Let us notice that Our Lord did not Himself distribute this food to the multitude, but charged His *Apostles* to do so, as He charges us to offer consolation and help to the souls in purgatory.

And what means can we use to aid the suffering souls? They are shown to us in figure in the loaves and fishes miraculously multiplied, which are a symbol of the Holy Eucharist. In the Holy Eucharist, in the Sacrifice of the Mass, we have the best means of relieving the souls in purgatory, for the Holy Mass is the renewal, the offering of the Sacrifice of Calvary, which is the source of all merit, justification and pardon. Being a Divine Sacrifice, the Holy Mass is always efficacious.

The Apostles filled twelve baskets with the fragments that remained after the multitude had been fed. Here we have another useful lesson. It is, that almsgiving never impoverishes us. Hence, when we offer for the poor souls a Mass, a prayer, a mortification, an indulgence, we lose for ourselves the expiatory value that these good works would have gained for us, but we have the double merit of the good work and of charity, the most excellent virtue, by which, St. Peter says, our sins are cancelled. Furthermore, we will have earned for ourselves the gratitude of the poor souls, who will know how to repay a hundredfold the debt they owe us. Again, there is the certitude that the good work is pleasing to God and thus we acquire a fresh title to the effusion of His grace.

Mary Is the Bridge to Jesus

In offering up any prayer or good work for the holy souls, it is an excellent practice to do so through the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It is the will of God that Mary should be our Mediatrix, and our works, which always contain human defects, will be enriched and made more efficacious if we present them to the Divine Majesty through Mary. Mary is, as it were, the bridge over which Jesus passed to come to us, and she is also the bridge over which we must pass to go to Jesus. As she brought Christ to us, so by her intercession she brings us grace.

In the same way, Mary is the bridge by which the suffering souls cross from purgatory to heaven. By her mediation the poor souls are released and their torments mitigated. The Church herself, in the Requiem Mass, prays that God may grant eternal rest to the deceased

through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin and all the saints. Mary, as Queen of Heaven, rejoices at being invoked in behalf of the holy souls, and the more assiduously we pray to her for this purpose, the more efficaciously will she co-operate with us for their release. In truth, not only are we urged to pray to the Blessed Virgin for the holy souls, but even trustfully to place all our good works and prayers at her disposal for their benefit. Let us not fail, then, during this month of May, in Mary's own year, to offer her some form of prayer or some good work daily to be used in behalf of her dear suffering children in purgatory.

Some of the most pleasing devotions in honor of Our Lady are assisting at Holy Mass and receiving Holy Communion in her honor, praying the Rosary, the Litany, the Angelus, the Memorare, the Magnificat, or the Hail Mary, repeating the latter seven times in memory of her joys and seven times in memory of her sorrows. Whatever be our choice, let us select something *definite* and be faithful to it daily.

Mary Speaks to May Graduates

CONGRATULATIONS, my dear Graduates! You worked hard to earn that precious diploma, didn't you? — Well, yes, I helped you, to be sure; I could not fail you when you asked me so perseveringly. And now you want me to help you choose the way of life Jesus wishes you to follow? That, my dears, depends much upon your own generosity and good will. As you know, you may freely choose any one of three states: marriage, the religious life or priesthood, and unmarried life in the world. Doubtless you will feel specially drawn to one of them, and that is probably your vocation.

As for the religious life or priesthood, the real "call" or vocation comes when a novice is accepted by the religious superior for the making of vows, or when the young man is called by his Bishop to approach the altar to receive Holy Orders. So then it is largely a question of *making a test* of such a life to see if you have the necessary physical and spiritual qualities. That is the purpose of the postulate and the novitiate; and for the priesthood, the seminary is a thorough testing ground. You can see from this that any normal Catholic girl or boy may be a potential religious or candidate for the priesthood. Then why not think seriously about this highest of vocations, and if, with your confessor's help, you feel you have the required qualifications, apply for admission to a convent or monastery of your choice, or arrange for entrance into a seminary.

Just keep on praying faithfully to me, and I will help you to find the place where Jesus wants you.

Young ladies interested in the life of a Benedictine Eucharistic Adorer are invited to write for full information to:

Rev. Mother M. Carmelita, O.S.B., Prioress General
Benedictine Convent of Perpetual Adoration, Clyde, Missouri

Professing the Faith

Concluded

How We Should Carry Out the Duty of Professing Our Faith

THE Catholic Christian in whose soul faith in the One, Personal, Almighty, Good and Eternal God is *living*, is ever mindful of the happy truth that in the sacrament of Baptism he became a child of God; that in this sacrament he received the highest stamp of nobility, and the prospect of participating in those good things which "eye hath not seen, ear hath not heard and which hath not entered into the heart of any man." Therefore, he will consider it his special calling to belong to God wholly and entirely, to live and work for Him, to endure and suffer for Him. Woe to him if forgetting his exalted origin, he should disgrace his royal dignity by his deeds, and be forced to hear at his judgment the angry sentence of God: "You shall not enter into My Kingdom!"

Be then, O Christian, and remain what you are: a child of God! As such, you must strive to fulfil the duties imposed by the Divine commandments. Give to God the homage due to Him. With the early morning light seek your God, pray to Him, dedicate your actions to Him, and beg for His help. In the evening fold your hands in gratitude for the gifts received, in adoration of the Divine Majesty, at the same time humbly begging for the forgiveness of your sins. Dedicate the food you eat, the drink that refreshes you, by prayer to the Lord, according to the words of the Apostle: "Whether you eat or drink, or do anything else, do all for the glory of God" (1 Cor. 10:31).

Keep Sunday, the Lord's Day, with interior joy, away from the noise of the world, detached from earthly cares and anxieties. Nourish and strengthen yourself in a spiritual way, by assisting devoutly at the Holy Sacrifice and receiving the Bread of Life.

Impress the *image of God* on all your actions – not the image of self-seeking and inordinate self-love. Be thankful to God for His rich benefits to soul and body. Do not forget that God is the Giver of all that you possess, and of everything you hope to receive in time and eternity.

Convinced of the sacredness of the duties arising from faith in God, be mindful to grow daily in the knowledge of Divine truths and to penetrate into the Divine mysteries. For this purpose, listen willingly and attentively to the Word of God in sermons and instructions, in retreats, missions, etc. The Gospel is the "glad tidings" which the

Father in heaven has written to His children sojourning in a strange country, by which He has called them to share in His Kingdom, and ever invites them to it anew.

The glory of God must be dear to the heart of every Christian, in joy and sorrow alike. Earthly joys must not exalt them, and success in work must not puff them up. In the midst of their wealth, let their eyes be directed to Him from whom all blessings come. With the royal singer, let them say: "I will sing to the Lord, who giveth me good things" (Ps. 12:6). If misfortune approaches you with ominous steps, if the floods of sorrow close in upon you, place yourself in the hands of God and say with the patient Job: "If we have received good things at the hand of God, why should we not receive evil?" (Job 2:10.)

Children of God

In holy Baptism, we became "children of God." The same sacrament conferred on us the name of "Christian." In regard to this name, St. Cyprian says that only he deserves it who earnestly strives to live according to the sentiments, morals, and life of Christ. "I am not a Christian," says St. Malachias, "if I am not a follower of Christ." According to the words of St. Paul, we have "put on" Christ in holy Baptism. He writes: "For all of you who have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ" (Gal. 3:27). If Christ is our *garment*, He must also become visible on us in His virtues. All in us must bear His stamp. Who could and would want to deny that it is the first and highest duty of a baptized Christian to bear testimony, by a holy and unshaken faith, to the Word of eternal Truth, which Christ, as Prophet, proclaims to mankind? to enter, through the sacrifice of self into the work of Redemption, which Christ, the only and true Priest, has consummated? and finally, to become lord of himself through obedience to the highest King? Coming from Christ, bearing His name, having been redeemed by His Blood, and sanctified through His sacraments, Christ must be for us the watchword which calls us to every occupation: to speak or to act, to work, to sacrifice, to suffer and to struggle with life's difficulites. Nothing must separate us from the love of Christ, whether on the heights of fortune, or in the depths of misery. We must always be ready to distinguish ourselves by a faultless conduct. Anointed as soldiers of Christ in the sacrament of Confirmation and fitted out with heavenly armor, let us fearlessly uphold the truth that the world in our time too needs Christian principles, in all walks of life: in the home, in the community, in business, in society, and in political life.

Fully aware of our influence on others, we must, as disciples of

Christ, do our duty in public life, where not only material matters, but also deeply religious and ecclesiastical questions have to be treated and decided. Christ's enemies can be victorious only when we Catholics are inactive and indifferent. This can, this may, this shall not be! No, we belong to the army of Jesus Christ! Let each one of us fight to make ring true the words of that battle cry, engraved on the age-old obelisk in St. Peter's square in Rome: *Christus vincit, Christus regnat, Christus imperat!* — CHRIST CONQUERS, CHRIST REIGNS, CHRIST COMMANDS!

Devotedness to the Church

With indissoluble bonds of love, we are bound to our Holy Mother, the Church. "Christ also loved the Church, and delivered Himself up for her," says the Apostle of the Gentiles, (Eph. 5:25). Where there is love for Christ, love for the ark of salvation He has founded will not be wanting. This ark of salvation is our Mother, — a Mother who, unlike the mother of the human race who was formed from the rib of Adam, came forth from the pierced Side of the Redeemer, the Heavenly Adam, and is forever united with Him as His holy and immaculate Bride. She is at the same time appointed by her Divine Founder as the Teacher of the Divine Word, the Proclaimer of the eternal laws, and the Dispenser of heavenly graces. This Mother took us into her arms in the first hours of our life. Under her protection we grew up and were strengthened more and more, by her teachings and by the means of grace, for the battles of life and the attainment of our highest and last end. And this same Church will show herself a Mother to us in the fullest sense of the word when she stretches forth her hands in pleading and protection at the hour of our death, when she puts us to rest; and even after our passage into eternity, she will always remember us in her prayers and in the Mass.

The history of the Church is glorious and renowned, — rich in bitter strifes, rich in glorious victories. Weighing all this, you would be heartless indeed if you did not cling to her with all your strength, and give testimony to her before the whole world. But how do you openly profess your faith? Listen and apply this test to yourself: The true Catholic submits his views and his convictions to the Spirit of Truth who speaks through the mouth of the Church. He considers it a matter of conscience to accept in a joyful and grateful spirit all that the teaching authority of the Church presents for his belief. With a living faith he also favors those views which are more in accordance with the spirit, the practice and the declarations of the holy Apostolic See and the Councils. He welcomes with joy the ordinances instituted

by the Church for preserving the purity of her doctrine, and for sanctifying Christian life, such as prohibiting the reading of certain books, condemning modern "reforms" in morals, etc. Briefly, the true Catholic will not have his religious beliefs diluted, nor will he have one iota deleted from his Credo. He maintains at all times a true filial devotion to the Head of the Church as the successor of St. Peter.

Living with the Church

True sons and daughters of the Catholic Church take an active part in the life of the Church, entering into it with heart and soul. They accompany Our Lord from the crib to the Cross! They mourn over the sins which pierced His Heart. They rejoice on the morning of His Resurrection. They implore the Holy Spirit, who came down in flames of fire, to make His graces overflow upon them also. They see in the feasts of the Mother of God and in the feasts of the saints an invitation to a closer imitation of their holiness and a challenge to call upon their aid. Further, they consider it a high and holy duty to frequent the sacraments and the holy Sacrifice of the Mass, drawing from them as from so many fountains, which pour graces over the sinful world.

True adherents of the Church and courageous professors of the Faith, they pray for vocations to the priesthood, convinced that the flock of Christ cannot grow and develop without a sufficient number of shepherds. They consider it a special duty to counteract the effects of bad literature by spreading and promoting good literature, thus repairing the harm that is done daily. The better our Catholic press (so they reason) and the more it upholds the principles of truth, justice and love, the more firmly it will establish the foundations of the State and render an invaluable service to the Church and the country.

In still another way, loyal Catholics make a strong profession of fidelity to the Church. By the sacrifice of time, money and strength, they support Catholic associations and organizations of every kind, considering this a necessary means to build an insurmountable wall against inimical invasions of the sacred precincts of the Church. With enthusiasm, they support the home and foreign missions.

Thus, they profess their faith in God, in Christ and in the Church, for the Catholic certificate of Baptism is of no value without a life of faith. To love God, to love Christ and the Church from the heart, to profess belief in them with the lips, and to enhance one's faith by works is to live as a good Catholic, a worthy heir of God, a true disciple of Christ, and a faithful member of Holy Church. It is the flowering of the graces given in the bath of regeneration.

(From a Pastoral Letter of Bishop Kaspar Klein, Paderborn)

The Golden Gift for the Golden Year!

A HALF century of spreading the message of the Tabernacle far and wide has passed, each year forging a new golden link in the chain of golden graces received, and, we hope, passed on by its thousands of faithful readers throughout the land.

But now we are looking forward with bright hopes to the future. For "Tabernacle and Purgatory" is still *young* and has much to offer its readers. Now more than ever do souls need the encouragement and consolation of God-with-Us in the Blessed Sacrament. How else will they sustain the burdens of our war-weary, uncertain days? Only the living awareness of a God who loves them, and who is WITH them constantly, can enable them to support the heavy burdens of life.

This is what we hope to do with "Tabernacle and Purgatory," if YOU will help us. Through you, we hope to reach out and draw still other souls to the God of Love. Will you aid them to grow in the knowledge and love of the Blessed Sacrament by subscribing to our magazine for them? Will you send them this monthly encouragement and inspiration, or at least, make them aware of it? ONE NEW SUBSCRIPTION from each of our faithful readers would enable us to double our subscription list. Won't you help to make this a truly golden Golden Jubilee Year?

Premiums for New Subcriptions

for MAY — Golden Jubilee Month

DURING the month of MAY, which inaugurates our Golden Jubilee year, we offer a choice of two precious premiums for each NEW subscription: Either a **Scheyern Cross** OR a holy **picture of Saint Pius X,** in colors, with a **relic** attached. Many of our readers have learned to treasure the Scheyern Cross as a sacramental endowed with great efficacy in effecting cures, both of bodily and spiritual ailments, and obtaining other favors from God. These crosses are not for sale, but are given out **only as premiums** for new subscriptions this month — in honor of the feast of the Holy Cross on May 3d. (Kindly mention which premium is desired.)

For 5 NEW subscriptions, we offer an attractive and durable Rosary, 17 inches long, made from medium sized olive wood beads obtained from the Holy Land.

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Canada & foreign countries, $2.50, or $3.50 for two years.

Little Lovers' League

DEAR Little Lovers, how happy we are each year when May comes round again! Not just because it is one of the most beautiful months of the year, when the bright sunshine, the fresh green grass, the many lovely flowers and the singing birds make us bubble over with joy, but because it is MARY'S month — the month of our own dear Blessed Mother! Truly, we could call this the *Month of Joy*. It is a time of joy for our Blessed Mother because during May she is honored in a very special way; and it is a time of joy for all her children, because Mary is the "Cause of our Joy."

For our Little Lovers it is a month of joy also because it brings the feast of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament, your beloved Patroness. This year the feast comes on a Thursday, the day dedicated to the Blessed Sacrament, so there will be a double reason for you to go to Holy Mass and receive Holy Communion on that day. How pleased our Blessed Mother must be when she sees many faithful Little Lovers assisting devoutly at Holy Mass and receiving Jesus into their hearts, and often visiting Him in His tabernacle home! Pray to her each day and ask her to make you true *Lovers* of the Blessed Sacrament.

May will mean even more to all of us this year because our Holy Father has formally dedicated 1954 to our dear Blessed Mother, and we will want to make this a very special May in her honor. But this does not mean we must try to say very many extra prayers or increase the number of our devotions to her. Rather it means that we should try to say our usual prayers with more fervor and attention, and above all with more *love*. It is *love* that makes them pleasing to God and to His Blessed Mother, and if this is lacking, our prayers are only so many empty words. So when we say the *Hail Mary*, or

any other prayer to our Blessed Mother, let us say it thoughtfully and reverently. It would be much better to say only a few prayers, and say them in this way, than to say a great many without really thinking of what we are doing.

During May you will be having your little May altars, and will keep fresh flowers before Mary's statue or picture to show your love for her. This will be very pleasing to Our Lady. But you can please her still more by keeping her image enshrined on the little altar of your *heart*, that is, by loving thoughts of her, and by offering her the lovely flowers of virtue and prayer. You can think of each *Hail Mary* as a beautiful *rose* placed on your heart-altar; and when you say the Rosary you can weave a beautiful garland of *white*, or *red*, or *yellow* roses, as you pray the *Joyful*, the *Sorrowful*, or the *Glorious* Mysteries. May each Little Lover offer Mary many such "roses" during this month of May.

PRACTICE: Recite a **Hail Mary** daily for the intentions of our Holy Father for the Marian Year.

ASPIRATION: Mary, with your loving Son, bless us, each and every one!

Results of the Marian Contest

THE postman was kept busy during March delivering the many fine pictures and letters sent to us in response to our **Marian Contest.** Over **fifty drawings** of the Immaculate Conception were received. A few were more or less alike because the same picture was used as a model, but most of them were quite individual. Some were in pencil, some in water colors, some in crayon, and one in oils. The drawings were put on exhibition and all the Sisters who saw them were delighted with their variety and the skill that was shown.

Little Mary Ann Lozar, age 5 years, sent us what she called a "3-D" picture of the Blessed Mother. Her sister also sent a drawing. Joyce Futty's drawing was quite original, as it pictured the Immaculate Virgin as a child. We congratulate these boys and girls who show such ability and assure all who sent a drawing that their efforts were appreciated, but, of course, not all could be the winner. The Third Grade in St. Joseph's School, Rock Island, Illinois had the most entries from the schools. Some forgot to mention their school, so we could not give it.

The **contest letters** we received on what you are doing to honor Our Blessed Mother during the Marian Year about equaled the number of drawings. We regret that space does not allow printing the prize-winning ones, but so many are deserving of mention that we can give only the names of those who wrote the best ones. We are happy to see that you are making real efforts to do something special in honor of Our Blessed Mother. You are trying to learn all you can about Our Blessed Mother, making scrapbooks for the Marian

Year, saying extra prayers, imitating her virtues, making pilgrimages, and doing many of the things that our Holy Father asked his children to do in Mary's honor. Be faithful and Mary will surely bless you and shower many graces on you and on the world. After hearing the various opinions as to which should be selected as the prize-winners and for honorable mention, the judges decided on the following:

Prize-Winning Drawings of the Immaculate Conception

Group	Name	Age	Address
5 - 10 yrs.	Joyce M. T. Futty	10	Parma, Ohio
	Marietta Rigert	9	Beaverton, Oregon
11 - 17 yrs.	Robert Welcome	17	Auburn, Mass.
	Jo Ann Kilanoski	Gr. 8	St. Joseph, Missouri

Honorable Mention for Drawings

5 - 10 yrs.	Mary Ann Lozar	5	Campbell, Calif.
	Joanne Rascati	10	New Haven, Conn. (2 pictures)
	Edward Wegman	10	St. Louis, Missouri
	Eleanor Vela	10	Santa Monica, Cal. (2 pictures)
11 - 17 yrs.	Joan Lair	13	Alliance, Ohio
	Justin Miller	Gr. 7	Laveen, Arizona (St. John's Indian School)
	Jose Miguel	16	Laveen, Arizona (St. John's Indian School)
	Colleen Miller	12	Kingston, N. Y. (Immaculate Conception School)

Prize-Winning Letters

Group	Name	Age	Address
5 - 10 yrs.	Janice Neveau	10	St. Paul, Minnesota
11 - 17 yrs.	Patricia Sweeney	11	Kingston, New York

Honorable Mention for Letters

5 - 10 yrs.	Joseph Mehm		Kingston, New York
	Mary Jo Furlee	8	Mason, Ohio
	Mary Gevelinger	10	Mineral Point, Wisconsin (St. Mary's School)
11 - 17 yrs.	Mary Joan Hruby	14	St. Joseph, Missouri
	Mary Kolano		Kingston, New York
	Mary Wanschura	11	St. Paul, Minnesota

It looks as if the **Mary's** are Our Blessed Mother's favorites here, doesn't it? Mary Wanschura also entered a picture in the contest, which compared very favorably with some of the better ones. The Immaculate Conception School, Kingston, New York had the most entries for letters. May Jesus and Mary bless each and every one who took part in our contest.

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